Up Coming Events:

**September 4, 2008 7:30 Thursday Lyceum-:**
*Tunes on the Moeller:* The Rev. Karen Ullestad, pastor of Church of the Master Lutheran Church, plays the mighty Moeller for your listening pleasure. Karen is an accomplished organist and will present a program utilizing the full capacity of the 1914 pipe organ. Rev. Ullestad has an advanced degree in organ music.

**September 14, 2008, Sunday 11:00am – 5:00pm. Tinkers Creek Watershed Day celebration, (See article inside)**

**September 27, 2008: Yesterday’s Green Movement;** Discover the engineering efficiency of the Victorian era.

**October 2, 2008  6:30 Dinner & the Lyceum:**
An Old Fashioned Meatloaf Dinner served on genuine Walker China! Followed at 7:30 with a presentation about Walker China. (See article)

**October 4, 2008 10:00 – 2:00 Saturday Autumn Harvest Festival.** Join us on beautiful Bedford Public Square for hayrides, pumpkin carving, entertainment and food. The Town Hall Museum will be open for tours.

**November 6, 2008 7:30 Thursday Lyceum- Ohio Presidents-Tales from the Campaign Trail.** Kathie Rice presents tales from other election years. She focuses on Ohio’s presidential sons and their campaigns.

From the president......

Summer is nearing an end and Bedford Square will be the quiet, restful and beautiful place that we all love. The mix of quiet Square and busy festivals give Bedford that Home Town Feeling. The Strawberry Festival and Car Show were successful. It included the dedication of the memorial gardens in memory of Don Grossenbaugh and John Piazza. We had a ‘visit’ from President Abraham Lincoln and Julius Tibbs. Thanks to all the members and volunteers who helped with the Strawberry Festival. Thanks, also, to Chris Sweet for a successful Flea Market. It is the faithful support of our members that keep us going in our day-to-day operations and at our special events. Keep in touch with us through our newsletter and website for the exciting events coming this fall. See you at the museum!

Betsy Lee

New Flick Document

Member Eric Angyal donated an interesting piece of history to the archives- the marriage license of baseball Hall of Fame great, Elmer Flick to Rosella Gates. Eric spotted the document at a sports memorabilia show and purchased it for the society’s archives. The newlyweds were married in LaGrange Indiana on New Year’s Eve, December 31, 1900. The license was issued on January 3, 1901. The Reverend Ernest E. Neal officiated as minister.
Salute!

Thanks to Kathie & Jim Rice and their team of volunteers for leading the Bedford School Local History tours. We appreciate the help of: Dave Beveridge, Lynn Beveridge, Janet Curran, Sue Garland, Merry Anne Hilty, Betsy Lee, Sherry Petkovsek, Sandy Pittaway, Helen Pratt, Lester Pratt, Alma Rhine, Jim Rice, Kathie Rice, John Roborecki, Jeanette Rue and Janet Caldwell.

Thanks to Betsy Lee and all of the people who helped make our Strawberry Festival a success. We are waiting for the final tally but it looks like the hard work netted about $17,600 for the general operating budget.

Thanks to Phil Marali for making and donating shelves and a display table. They will come in handy for exhibits.

Thanks to Roger Fuhrmeyer, Scott Marshall, Lester Pratt & Siobhan Smith for distributing the leaf compost around the garden beds.

Thanks to you for being a raffle supporter!

Raffle Winners

2008 Strawberry Festival raffle winners: Helen Batko’s handmade Bedford afghan was won by Barbara McDaniel, The handmade quilt by Ruth Dobry was won by Madeline Timm. Other winners included: Irene Kusmierz, Mildred McCarty, Doris Werden, Virginia Ridgway, Don Navratil, Marilyn Zolata, Jack Ulman, Tony Ambris Jr., Ronald Martin, Roman Boldyreff, C.Saunders, Vern Cooper, Scott Marshall, Dennis Kotmel, Brenda Cramer and Wilma Dinardo.

Old Ways School in October

The Old Ways School will be in session on four Monday evenings in October. The brochure with registration is enclosed with this newsletter. Please help spread the word about the school. It is an opportunity to learn a new skill or improve on an old skill.

A Visit from the Hower House

We hosted visitors from the Akron Hower House in June. The historic house museum was designed by Jacob Snyder, the designer of our 1892 Old Church on the Square. The visitors toured our buildings and then enjoyed a high tea.

Our thanks to Lynn Jones and her dedicated volunteers- Andy Jones, Pat Papish, Chris Sweet, Pat Bosway, Barb McDaniel, Jeanette Rue, Veronica Hutchison, Evelyn Sawastuk, Steve & Helen Batko. Special thanks to Myrtle Smith for her afternoon violin repast.

We have been invited to visit the Hower House. The 28-room mansion was constructed in 1871 and is situated on the University of Akron Campus. Lynn Jones is willing to make the arrangements to include Hower House and Stan Hywet, then lunch at a local eatery. Call Lynn, 330 467-4338, if you are interested. Tentatively scheduled for a Saturday morning in early autumn.

Key Bank Volunteers

Our friends at Key Bank helped the society on May 20th. Volunteers worked to cut, rake and plant annuals on the grounds of the Old Church, Town Hall and Dunham House. This program, sponsored by the bank, allows bank employees to work on community service projects. We have been fortunate to be the recipient of their generosity for the past several years.
Cemetery Restoration

Restoration of the gravestones in Bedford Cemetery started the week of June 23rd. Mr. John Walters and assistant, Kelly Luke worked a full week repairing some of the most damaged stones and straightening ‘tipplers’.

As funds become available through donations and the sale of the Bedford Cemetery book, we hope to have the Graveyard Groomer return for additional restoration work.

Many of the stones needing repair have dates older than 1857, which is when the current cemetery was purchased. An older cemetery was across the street on Solon Road, now Taylor St. It is presumed that these older stones were moved along with the bodies to the new cemetery when the Connotton Valley Railroad cut through.

When stones lean past 30 degrees, they fall and break. They also break any stones that they fall upon. Righting the ‘tipplers’ prevents extensive damage in the future.

Your support of this important preservation project is appreciated.
Your Help is Needed

A note from Evelyn Sawastuk, the society’s building coordinator:

Help! Help! Help!

We are looking for friends of the Bedford Historical Society who want to help save and protect the oldest church in Bedford. The roof of the Old Church on the Square is in need of replacement! It is at the end of its lifetime and has been repaired and patched too many times. A recent storm this summer blew off several shingles. We are working hard to protect our beautiful sanctuary and save our priceless 100 year old organ from being ruined. We want to continue having weddings, musical concerts, parties and programs in this building. We need you to dig deep in your pockets and give us a life preserver now!

Tinker’s Creek Day

Join us as we help celebrate the largest creek in Bedford Township- Tinkers Creek. This special day, Sunday September 14 11:00am – 5:00pm, will promote the importance of our stewardship for the health of the creek. The museums will be open in the afternoon; there will be booths from various conservation groups, entertainment and food. Activities include a composting demonstration, ‘green’ activities and visiting zoo animals. All activities are on the Square. We’ll be there telling the importance of the creek to the history of this area. Participants include: The Tinker’s Creek Conservancy, Bedford Historical Society, Cleveland Metroparks, Doty & Miller and the City of Bedford.

Remember the first Lyceum of the season is September 4th at 7:30 pm. The Rev. Karen Ullestad will present ‘Tunes on the Moeller’.

2008-2009 Lyceum

The Lyceum schedule is enclosed with this newsletter. This popular series is free and open to the public and is always well attended. Invite your friends and neighbors for a once-a-month evening of interesting conversation and refreshments.

Obituaries

Margaret Klepatz; Member Margaret Klepatz passed away on May 5, 2008. She was a member of the society since 1986. Margaret was a lifelong resident of Bedford. She was the sister of the late Theodore and Dorothy Wagner, Virginia Lewis and Herb Klepatz. She will be missed by many nieces and nephews.

Joseph Jesensky; Joe Jesensky passed away on June 19, 2008. He was a noted historian and artist. Joe contributed his papers and artwork to the society. His works are invaluable aids to understanding the Bedford Reservation area and local Gypsy tribes. He is survived by his loving son, Lawrence and family members and dear friends.

Gerald Alan Sutton; Gerald Sutton passed away on July 27, 2008. He was a member of the society since 1994. He was a graduate of Bedford High. During the Korean Conflict, Gerald served his country in the US Army. He leaves his loving wife Barbara (nee: Rudd) and son Alan (Sue) and two grandchildren.